The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

- 1. Individualized, crosslinked cellulosic fibers, comprising cellulosic fibers treated with only an aqueous glyoxal solution in an amount effective to provide crosslinked fibers having a wet bulk greater than about 20 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 2. The fibers of Claim 1, wherein the wet bulk is greater than about 22 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 3. The fibers of Claim 1, wherein the wet bulk is greater than about 25 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 4. The fibers of Claim 1, wherein the fibers have a brightness greater than about 80 % ISO.
- 5. The fibers of Claim 1, wherein the amount of glyoxal is from about 4 to about 15 percent by weight based on the weight of fibers.
- 6. The fibers of Claim 1, wherein the amount of glyoxal is from about 6 to about 10 percent by weight based on the weight of fibers.
- 7. An absorbent product, comprising cellulosic fibers treated with only an aqueous glyoxal solution in an amount effective to provide crosslinked fibers having a wet bulk greater than about 20 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 8. The product of Claim 7, wherein crosslinked fibers have a wet bulk is greater than about  $22 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$  at 0.6 kPa.
- 9. The product of Claim 7, wherein the crosslinked fibers have a wet bulk is greater than about 25 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
  - 10. The product of Claim 7 further comprising fluff pulp fibers.
  - 11. The product of Claim 7 further comprising superabsorbent material.
  - 12. The product of Claim 7, wherein the product is an infant diaper.

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- 13. The product of Claim 7, wherein the product is an adult incontinence product.
- 14. The product of Claim 7, wherein the product is a feminine hygiene product.
- 15. The product of Claim 7, wherein the product is at least one of a tissue or towel.
- 16. A paperboard product, comprising cellulosic fibers treated with only an aqueous glyoxal solution in an amount effective to provide crosslinked fibers having a wet bulk greater than about 20 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 17. The product of Claim 16, wherein crosslinked fibers have a wet bulk is greater than about 22 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
- 18. The product of Claim 16, wherein the crosslinked fibers have a wet bulk is greater than about 25 cm<sup>3</sup>/g at 0.6 kPa.
  - 19. The product of Claim 16, wherein the product is an insulated paperboard.
  - 20. The product of Claim 16, wherein the product is a packaging material.

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